

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The newspaper/broadcast

cross-ownership cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

We cannot allow the same company to own both a newspaper and TV station in the same geographic area and we can't change the laws that limit the percent of the national audience that a single cable company can reach.

We must not lose the last shred of decency left in the media. Lifting the cross-ownership ban will infect our newspapers with the problems that exist in television programming.

There have been numerous studies proving the direct correlation between certain programming and certain behaviors in the viewers of the programming.

You cannot abandon a public interest restriction of this sort in the guise of patriotism and say that the oppressor here is regulation.

We have already lost all decency in the radio medium with the loss of the Fairnes Doctrine. People have been incited to do many things because of raging radio talk show hosts. Radio programming is also reflecting the political views of the station's owners. Honest and balanced discussions of political issues are now a thing of the past (but we the public will regain them.) Instead of losing more of our public morals we should be heading the other way to save our nation. We need to restore the Fairness Doctrine. Only those who fear fairness would object.

Although for now, it is imperative that we do not allow the lifting of the cross-ownership ban to allow further media consolidation. This will not serve the public interest.